

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SCCT-01 SY-05 OPR-02 OC-05

CCO-00 A-01 PER-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 /059 W

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R 281315Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1175

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

CINCUSAFE

USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, TU, GR, CY

SUBJ: TURKISH DOMESTIC REACTION TO ASSASSINATIONS  
OF AMBASSADORS

1. THE ASSASSINATIONS OF TURKISH AMBASSADORS IN VIENNA AND  
PARIS DREW A STRONG REACTION IN THE TURKISH PRESS OVER THE  
OCTOBER 25-27 WEEKEND, TAPERING OFF SOMEWHAT ON OCTOBER 28.  
INITIALLY, OUTRAGE WAS A KEY THEME (MASS CIRCULATION HURRIYET  
USED A SINGLE WORD--"VILLAINY"-- AS ITS BANNER HEADLINE  
OCTOBER 25). HOWEVER, PRESS INTEREST QUICKLY CENTERED ON THE  
SEARCH FOR THE KILLERS AND SPECULATION AS TO THEIR NATIONAL  
IDENTITY. PROMINENCE WAS GIVEN TO NEWS REPORTS THAT THE  
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VIENNA POLICE HAD "EVIDENCE" IMPLICATING THREE GREEK

CITIZENS AND THAT THE GOG HAD DECLINED TO RETURN THEM TO VIENNA FOR QUESTIONING. STORIES OF AN ARMENIAN GROUP'S CLAIM TO RESPONSIBILITY AND OF POSSIBLE EOKA-B INVOLVEMENT ALSO WERE STRONGLY PLAYED. SEVERAL EDITORIALS SPECULATED THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS AND ARMENIANS COULD HAVE CARRIED OUT THE ASSASSINATIONS.

2. BY CONTRAST WITH THE PRESS TREATMENT, PRIMIN DEMIREL CALLED ON ALL TURKS TO REMAIN CALM, AND NO RPT NO OTHER NATIONAL LEADER MADE INFLAMMATORY STATEMENTS ON THE ASSASSINATIONS. (ONE DEPUTY FROM DEMIREL'S JUSTICE PARTY, HOWEVER, SINASI OSMA, KNOWN FOR HIS MILITANTLY ANTI-GREEK VIEWS, CALLED FOR "RETALIATION" FOR THE KILLINGS.)

3. GREEK EMBASSY OFFICERS TOLD US OCTOBER 25 THAT THEY WERE HIGHLY CONCERNED THAT WHAT THEY TERMED "INFLAMMATORY HEADLINES" IN THE TURKISH PRESS WOULD PROVOKE MOB ACTIONS AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE GREEK MINORITY IN ISTANBUL " AS IN THE 1955 ANTI-GREEK RIOTS THERE". THEIR FEARS WERE HEIGHTENED BY A SMALL DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT OF THE GREEK EMBASSY HERE ON OCTOBER 25 DURING WHICH A CROSS WAS BURNED AND A BLACK WREATH WAS LEFT AT THE ENTRANCE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THE ONLY ANTI-GREEK ACTIVITIES IN ISTANBUL TO DATE OCCURRED ON OCTOBER 25 AND TOOK THE FORM OF (A) A MASS INVASION OF AYA SOFYA (HAGIA SOPHIA) MUSEUM AND THE HOLDING OF MOSLEM RELIGIOUS SERVICES THERE AND (B) A DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT OF THE GREEK CONSULATE GENERAL.

4. THE TURKISH ARMENIAN COMMUNITY ISSUED A STATEMENT OCTOBER 27 NOTING THAT ITS MEMBERS HAD "READ WITH REGRET THE NEWS IN THE PRESS TO THE EFFECT THAT ARMENIANS HAD COMMITTED THE CRIMES". THE STATEMENT WENT ON TO DECLARE THAT THE COMMUNITY HAD NO INTEREST IN "EXTERNAL POLITICAL OR IDEOLOGICAL MOVEMENTS" AND THAT IT OPPOSED "THOSE WHO SEEK TO DISTURB THE PEACE OF THE TURKISH NATION".

5. WE HAVE HAD NO RPT NO REPORTS THAT THE DEMONSTRATION AT CONGEN ISTANBUL (ISTANBUL 3583) HAS HAD ANY SEQUELS AT U.S. ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE.  
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## Message Attributes

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